

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were originally pending in the PCT application. Claims 1-7, 9-16, and 18 have been amended to place in USPTO format and to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 19 and 20 have been canceled. Applicants retain the right to file continuation applications related to any canceled subject matter.

The specification was amended to conform with USPTO practice. Specifically, Paragraph [0001] has been inserted to identify the previous application and Headers, as required by the USPTO, have been inserted.

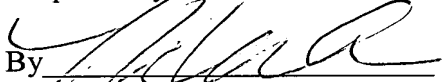
This preliminary amendment has been filed in order to place the specification and claims in conformance with USPTO practice. No new matter has been added. Applicant requests that the amendments be entered into the file of the above-referenced application prior to prosecution on the merits of the case.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. HO-P03101US0 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 6, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Melissa W. Acosta

Registration No.: 45,872

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

1301 McKinney, Suite 5100

Houston, Texas 77010-3095

(713) 651-5151

(713) 651-5246 (Fax)